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>-----Original Message-----

>From: Martin Frank [<mailto:Mfrank@aps.faseb.org>]

>Sent: Monday, October 23, 2000 4:58 PM

>To: lipman@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

>Subject: Re: Grass roots and a public library

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>David,

>Help me if you don't mind to understand the meaning of this letter which
you

>have apparently signed as a representative of NIH. Are you suggesting that

>NIH truly has the financial ability to serve as the archive for all the

>scientific literature? Based on your early experiences, I find it hard to

>believe that you will be able to manage the data dump that you would have
to

>handle if we all agreed to this proposal. Would NIH be funding this

>initiative? Would you be charging the publishers? Do you believe that the
>commercial publishers would agree to participate?
>
>Please help me to understand where this proposal is going. Based on the
fact
>that you signed on to it, I presume that you can provide some valuable
>insights.
>
>Thank you in advance for your comments. By the way, congratulations on
your
>election to the IOM.
>
>Marty
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>Open Letter:
>
>We support the establishment of an online public library that would provide
>the full contents of the published record of research and scholarly
>discourse in medicine and the life sciences research in a freely
accessible,
>fully searchable, interlinked form. Establishment of this public library
>would vastly increase the accessibility and utility of the scientific
>literature, enhance scientific productivity, and catalyze integration of
the
>disparate communities of knowledge and ideas in biomedical sciences.
>
>We recognize that the publishers of our scientific journals have a
>legitimate right to a fair financial return for their role in scientific
>communication. We believe, however, that the permanent, archival record of
>scientific research and ideas should neither be owned nor controlled by
>publishers, but should belong to the public, and should be freely available
>through an international online public library.
>
>To encourage the publishers of our journals to support this endeavor, we
>pledge that, beginning in September, 2001, we will publish in, edit or
>review for, and personally subscribe to, only those scholarly and
scientific
>journals that have agreed to grant unrestricted free distribution rights to
>any and all original research reports that they have published, through
>PubMed Central and similar online public resources, within 6 months of
their
>initial publication date.
>
>Signed:
>
>Between 10-5-2000 and 10-21-2000, the following scientists have signed this
>letter:
>
>David Agard, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Robert (Buzz) Baldwin, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford
>University
>David Baltimore, President, Caltech
>Greg Barsh, Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Genetics, Stanford
>University
>Paul Berg, Professor, Biochemistry, Stanford
>Elizabeth Blackburn, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Matt Bogyo, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Michael Botchan, Professor, Molecular and Cellular Biology, UC Berkeley
>David Botstein, Professor, Department of Genetics, Stanford University
>Patrick O. Brown, Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford

>University
>Richard Calendar, Professor, Molecular and Cellular Biology, UC Berkeley
>Graeme Davis, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Mark Davis, Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, Stanford University
>Joseph DeRisi, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry, UCSF
>Jonathan A. Eisen, Assistant Investigator, TIGR
>Michael B. Eisen, Scientist, Life Sciences Division, Lawrence Berkeley
>National Lab
>David Eisenberg, Professor, Molecular Biology Institute, UCLA
>James Ferrell, Associate Professor, Molecular Pharmacology, Stanford
>University
>Robert Fletterick, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Uta Francke, Professor of Genetics, Stanford University
>Harry B. Greenberg, Professor and Dean of Research, Stanford University
>School of Medicine
>Carol Gross, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Pehr Harbury, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford
>University
>Dan Herschlag, Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford
>University
>Dale Kaiser, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford University
>Regis B. Kelly, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Cynthia Kenyon, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Chaitan Khosla, Associate Professor of Chemical Engineering, Stanford
>University
>Stuart Kim, Associate Professor, Developmental Biology, Stanford University
>Jack Kirsch, Professor, Molecular and Cellular Biology, UC Berkeley
>Arthur Kornberg, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford University
>Thomas Kornberg, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Hao Li, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>David Lipman, Director, NCBI
>Dan Littman, Investigator, HHMI, Skirball Institute of Biomolecular
>Medicine, NYU
>Sharon Long, Professor, Biological Sciences, Stanford University
>Hiten Madhani, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Dyche Mullins, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Roel Nusse, Professor, Department of Developmental Biology, Stanford
>University
>Patrick O'Farrell, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Erin O'Shea, Dept. of Biochemistry and Biophysics, UC San Francisco
>Scott Peterson, Investigator, TIGR
>Suzanne Pfeffer, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford University
>Natasha Raikhel, Professor, Plant Research Laboratory and Biochemistry
>Department, Michigan State University
>Rosemary J Redfield, Associate Professor, Zoology, University of British
>Columbia
>Michael Rexach, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Stanford
>University
>Eddy Rubin, Department Head, Genome Sciences, Lawrence Berkeley National
Lab
>
>Gerald Rubin, Vice President for Biomedical Research, Howard Hughes Medical
>Institute
>Richard Scheller, Professor, Molecular and Cellular Physiology, Stanford
>University
>Matthew Scott, Professor, Department of Developmental Biology, Stanford
>University
>Anita Sil, Assistant Professor, Microbiology, UCSF
>Steven Smith, Professor of Molecular and Cellular Physiology, Stanford
>University
>James Spudich, Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford University

>Didier Stainier, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Robert Stroud, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Julie Theriot, Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry, Stanford
>University
>Jeremy Thorner, Professor, Molecular and Cellular Biology, UC Berkeley
>Rob Tibshirani, Professor, Health Research and Policy, Stanford University
>Ron Vale, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Harold E. Varmus, President, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
>John Watson, Department of Biochemistry, UCSF
>Arthur Weiss, Investigator, HHMI, UCSF
>Barbara Wold, Professor, Caltech
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>Note: We recognize that some scientists may agree in principle with this
>pledge, but have practical concerns about limiting their options for
>publishing their research, depending on the extent of support that this
>pledge receives from their scientific peers. Signatures on this letter are
>provisional until May 1, 2001, when we intend to publish this open letter.
>Until that time, your signature represents an agreement in principle, and
>can be withdrawn. We would be grateful if you would still be willing to
have
>your support made public, as your leadership by example will encourage
>others to give similar support. If you would like your support to remain
>strictly confidential until your commitment is definite, we will honor that
>request. [None of the individuals listed above have asked that their
>signatures be kept confidential].
>Patrick O. Brown
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>TEL: (650) 723-0005
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>"...integrating the life sciences from molecule
>to organism"